

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66621

DRAFTED BY: PM/AE:HGHANDYSIDE

APPROVED BYC: PN/AEBCHHANDYSIDE

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R 281527Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 041437

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 41437 SENT ACTION ROME,
MARCH 27TH:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 041437

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION HONG KONG, MANILA, BANGKOK, CANBERRA,
ISLAMABAD, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, TAIPEI, TEHRAN, TOKYO, WELLINGTON,
SEOUL, INFO CINCPACFLT, CINCLANTFLT, CINCUSNAVEUR, CINCPUC
HONOLILU HI, CINCLANT, CINCEUR FROM SECSTATE MARCH 01:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 041437

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE RADIATION MONITORING SCANDAL

EMBASSY ALSO FOR DAO

REF: A. STATE 35072 (PASEP)

1. ON JAN 29, JAPAN COMMUNIST PARTY (JCP) REP MADE ALLEGA-
TIONS IN JAPANESE DIET OF FABRICATION BY A JAPANESE CHEMI-
CAL ANALYSIS AGENCY OF ITS REPORTS OF ANALYSES OF HARBOR
WATER AND BOTTOM SEDIMENT SAMPLES TAKEN BY THE SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY AGENCY (STA). THE WATER AND MUD SAMPLES WERE
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TAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH US NUCLEAR POWERED WARSHIPS (NPW)

VISITS TO JAPAN AS PART OF THE GOJ RADIATION MONITORING PROGRAM. INVESTIGATION BY THE JAPANESE DETERMINED THAT THE JCP ALLEGATIONS WERE LARGELY CORRECT. ALLEGED FALSIFICATION ALSO INCLUDED ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES OF EFFLUENT DISCHARGES OF MAJOR JAPANESE INDUSTRIES, BUT RESULTANT PUBLIC FURORE CENTERED ON THE NPW VISIT ANGLE. AT NO TIHE HAS COLLUSION OR WRONG DOING BEEN ASCRIBED TO THE US. THE MATTER HAS BEEN TREATED BY THE JAPANESE AS AN INTERNAL GOJ PROBLEM.

2. THE GOJ IS CONDUCTING A REVIEW OF ITS MONITORING AND ANALYSIS PROGRAMS AND INFORMALLY REQUESTED THAT THE US SUSPEND NPW VISITS TO JAPAN FOR THE MONTH OF FEB. THE US AGREED TO COOPERATE WITH RESPECT TO ROUTINE NPW VISITS. SUBSEQUENTLY THIS INFORMATION WAS PUBLISHED IN TOKYO AND, IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES, CONFIRMED IN WASHINGTON. REF (A) REFERS. DOD PRESS STATEMENT ON SAME SUBJECT FOLLOWS: QUOTE. EARLY THIS MONTH THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT MADE AN INFORMAL REQUEST THAT VISITS OF US NUCLEAR POWERED SUBMARINES BE WITHHELD DURING FEBRUARY IN ORDER THAT A REVIEW OF ITS MONITORING PROGRAM MIGHT BE CONDUCTED. THE NAVY HAS BEEN ABLE TO HONOR THIS REQUEST WITH MINIMUM DIFFICULTY. UNQUOTE FYI QUESTION OF RESUMPTION OF VISITS IS UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION, WITH VISIT DEFERRALS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. END FYI

3. REPORTS ARE BEING RECEIVED OF FOREIGN PRESS ARTICLES WHICH, IN SOME CASES, MISQUOTE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS. IN ONE INSTANCE, THE FOREIGN PRESS REPORTED QUOTE A VIRTUAL BAN ON (SSN) VISITS IN FORCE IN JAPAN BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBLE RADIATION EFFECTS OF SUCH VESSELS INGTTE. THIS DISTORTION IS DISTURBING SINCE IT IMPLIES INCORRECTLY THAT A RADIATION HAZARD RATHER THAN IMPROPER ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES IS THE CASE OF THE GOJ SCANDAL.

4. WE DESIRE TO MAINTAIN A LOW PROFILE ON THE JAPANESE

CONTROVERSARY AND NO RPT NO STATEMENTS SHOULD BE ISSUED. HOU SHOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH DAO AND IF QUESTIONS RECEIVED, YOU MAY REPLY ALONG LINES REF (A) AND DOD
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STATEMENT QUOTED PARA 2. REPORT ANY INQUIRIES AND PRESS COMMENTARY. QUESTIONS BEYOND SCOPE OF REF (A) SHOUL REFERRED TO WASHINGTON FOR COORDINATED RESPONSE. UNQUOTE
RUSH

UNQUOTE RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE041437
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PM/AE:HGHANDYSIDE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974035/aaaaaeod.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.STATE 35072 (PASEP)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE RADIATION MONITORING SCANDAL EMBASSY ALSO FOR DAO
TAGS: MARR, JA
To: MADRID LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005